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C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 002592

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/19/2016

TAGS: PREL MARR FR NATO

SUBJECT: FRANCE ON NATO 'GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS'

REF: A. SECSTATE 56334

¶B. PARIS 02252

Classified By: Political Minister-Counselor Josiah Rosenblatt for Reasons 1.4(b) and (d).

¶1. (C) Ref A points were delivered to French MFA DAS-equivalent for Strategic Affairs, Nicolas Niemtchinow, on April 10. On April 17, Niemtchinow responded that France appreciated receiving the points, especially the detailed explanation of what global partnerships are and what they are not. He also said that the points had been shared with French representatives at NATO.

¶2. (C) Niemtchinow said the GoF has not finalized its own position on global partnerships but remains concerned with some of the aspects of the U.S.-U.K. proposal.

¶3. (C) Niemtchinow expressed the hope that the U.S. and France would continue to discuss France's concerns in a frank and open way such as was done on the recent visit of A/S Dan Fried (reftel B, where some of the French concerns, referred to above, were set out).

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Stapleton